

November 30, 2012

The Honorable John Rodolico Mayor, Town of Ledyard 741 Colonel Ledyard Highway, Ledyard, CT 06339

The Honorable Heather Bond Somers Mayor, Town of Groton 45 Fort Hill Road, Groton, CT 06340

Dear Mayors Rodolico and Somers,

On behalf of the State of Connecticut, I am pleased to make this critical investment in the value and stability of the U. S. Naval Submarine Base in New London. Our historic and deep partnership with the U.S. Navy reflects the extraordinary support our state and the communities that surround the base have provided for over 140 years.

The Navy base, and the *Submarine Force Center of Excellence* that has evolved around it, first came into existence in 1868, when the state donated 112 acres of land for its construction. Today, the State of Connecticut again demonstrates its commitment to support the base's essential role in providing for our national defense. Connecticut has provided funding for two additional projects that will enhance the operational capacity and strategic military value of the base.

Earlier this year the State Bond Commission approved \$225,000 for the Town of Ledyard, and \$455,000 for the Town of Groton to purchase properties on the north and south boarders of the base. These purchases will help to prevent future development that may be incompatible with ongoing naval operations, and they will improve traffic control, security and safety at the base. In addition to the very practical and tangible benefits, our efforts to mitigate encroachment on the base should enhance its military value, and improve its standing in any future Base Realignment and Closure assessment.

Citizens of Connecticut should be proud of our state's long and unique history in supporting the Navy, our submarine base and maritime defense industries throughout the state. Please convey my gratitude to the residents and municipal leaders of the Towns of Ledyard and Groton for their support and participation in our ongoing partnership with the Navy, and for all they do to care for service members and their families in our communities.

Sincerely,

Damiel P. Malloy

Governor

Mayor John Rodolico Town of Ledyard

Mayor Heather Bond Somers

Town of Groton

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR • STATE CAPITOL
210 CAPITOL AVENUE, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
TEL (860) 566-4840 • FAX (860) 524-7396 • www.governor.ct.gov

Governor.Malloy@ct.gov